S.No.	Name of State	Samples lifted		adulterated
16.	Punjab		1	1
17.	Tripura	Random sampling done. No adulterated mineral water detected.		
18.	Gujarat		206	24
19.	West Bengal		22	3 adulterated 4 misbranded
20.	Andhra Pradesh	1997	38	5
		1998	209	51
		1999 (upto Aug' 99)	431	103
21.	Andaman and Nicobar		9	Nil
22.	Assam	1998	Nil	Nil
		1999 (upto Nov.)	13	Nil

Use of animal raw material in tea flavour

†3493. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI:
SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare had issued a notification in the Gazette of India on 11th October, 1999 for use of animal raw material in the tea-flavour;

(b) if so, the names of persons responsible for the same; and

(c) what amendments were made in that notification and when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE [DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA]: (a) to (c) Prior to the notification of an amendment to the Prevention of Food Adulteration (PFA) Rules on 11.10.99, under entries A. 14 and A. 14.01 of Appendix B of the PFA

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Rules, 1955, only certain flavours were permissible for producing flavoured tea. There was a demand from the tea industry that, with the increasing variety of niche products in the market, there was a need to give more flexibility as to the types of flavours which may be added to tea. As a result, a notification was issued on 11.10.99, after obtaining the recommendations of the Central Committee for Food Standards, deleting the limited list of specific flavours permissible for tea. This, in result, made tea subject to the general provision for flavours under Rule 63 of the PFA Rules, which applies to all items for which there are no specific provisions. Under Rule 63 of the PFA Rules, the products may be flavoured with substances of vegetable or animal origin.

Since 9.8.94, the PFA Rules, 1955 have included a provision under Rule 44(G) under which, *inter-alia* flavoured tea can only be sold by those manufacturers who are registered with the Tea Board. This provision has never been lifted since its inclusion in the Rules. Therefore, even after the amendment to entry A. 14 to Appendix B in respect of permissible flavours for tea, permission from the Tea Board for adding flavours, was necessary before introducing any new flavour for tea. It has been confirmed by the competent authorities in the Tea Board that no tea manufacturing company has asked for permission for adding flavours containing ingredients of animal origin and no such permission has been given by them.

However, to forestall any misinterpretation of the existing provisions, under notification dated 2.08.2000, items A.14 and A.14.01 of Appendix B of the PFA Rules have been amended to make it explicit that the flavouring substances permissible in tea will be exclusively of materials of vegetable origin.

The amendments to the PFA Rules including the one made on 11-10-1999 are made following the statutory process prescribed for this purpose, which includes consultation with the Central Committee for Food Standards (CCFS) comprising representatives from State Governments, experts, representatives from other related departments of Government etc. vetting by the Ministry of Law and prepublication of the draft notification when comments/ objections from the public are invited and considered before the final notification is published.